

County of San Diego Sweetwater Community Planning Group
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY

May 3, 2011 7:00PM

Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Station 4900 Bonita Road, Bonita, CA 91902

Administrative Items

Roll: Don and Georjean Jensen, John and Harriet Taylor, Steve and Liz Stonehouse, Rick Blacklock, Don Scovel, Doc Stokos, Uwe Werner, Mark Kukuchek, Sheri Todus, Muriel Watson, Andrew Valencia and Alan Sachrison.

Item #1: Minutes. Approved. Motion Doc, seconded Rick, unanimous.

Item #2: Opportunity for members of the public to speak to the Planning Group on any subject within Planning Group's purview but not on the agenda. Presentations are limited to three minutes and no action can be taken.

As a citizen, Alan was concerned about joggers in the bike lanes of streets being hit by vehicular traffic.

Mark reported that the dead trees at the corner of Central and Sweetwater had been cut down but the stumps had been left. They need to be addressed.

Uwe wanted to know why the 'horse crossing' sign had been put by Sweetwater and Quarry. The answer was to get from there to the U.S. Grant property where there is a trail.

Item #5: Report on Summit Park Betterments, San Miguel Road Night Lighting and potential day use fees. Action item taken out of sequence.

Gustavo Godoy spoke to the issue of the lighting. His statement concluded that the contractor was working with the County on various 'cures' including painting the light bulbs, painting the interiors of the metal light shields, changing the shields. Some of the ideas would invalidate the manufacturer's warrantee. Both Mark and John suggested that the lights simply be turned off.

Michael De La Rosa explained that this might be a liability issue to the County. Sheri asked whether the number of lights could be reduced. After more discussion: the discussion of 2008 minutes was introduced where lighting was clearly mentioned, along with tree height for the new trees and horse corrals. These issues have also not been addressed to satisfaction. It was agreed that the County Parks Department should return in 30 days with a review and solution for the issues before it.

Item #3: Remarks from new member Andrew Valencia: He stated that as a thirty year resident, he felt that the his generation should now step up and aid the Group in keeping the Valley the way it had been during his childhood. That Bonita should not loose the 'ruralness' that it had maintained for so many years.

Item #4: Report from Michael De La Rosa of Supervisor Greg Cox's Office: He has spoken with Brian Albright about the lights. The Water Authority trail issue

is still pending, and is a problem. John asked that some of this be resolved before the State of Bonita message. State of Bonita is July 13, 2011, which is a Wednesday. It is to be at the Community Center as requested by the Civic Association and is where most members pay their fees.

Segment three from the Staging Area to Willow Bridge has been funded through Costal Conservancy to complete the loop to Summit Park. This will be a multi-use trail.

On the subject of closing Proctor Valley Road, the estimate for closure and trail maintenance is 45 thousand dollars.

Item#6: Trail Report. Mark mentioned that the CCC moved 20 truckloads of stuff from the homeless camp under the Sunnyside Bridge. District 2 has trail bridge by loop trail which is an ecological disaster. Trash had straggled from the Palm Canyon Swap Meet to the Bonita Golf Course. The washout on Sweetwater Road was repaired partly by the County of San Diego and the Parks Department. When will the trail to Sweetwater Farms be opened?

Liz made a motion to have Mark write a letter stating trail concerns to the appropriate people. Doc seconded. Unanimous.

Item #7: State Mandated Ethics Training (AG1234) ca-lig.org/ab1234compliance. Required training every two years. Those with concerns can call 619-531-4891 for more information.

Item #8: 2011 County Redistricting website and meetings. The Census requires redistricting of our Valley into District 2 is a possibility. For this group it is necessary to have only private citizens draft letters, as the Group is mandated by the County and can have no say as a group. The person to address the letter is Michel Anderson, Chairman of the Redistricting Committee, 1500 Pacific Highway, 92101

Item #9: VCA#867 Bonita Animal Hospital Chula Vista CA R06 Revised sign drawings from Anthony Avila Superior Electrical Advertising, Inc. Office: 562-256-3158 Action Item. They followed the directions and this is what they came up with: two lighted signs on sides of building, lit with led lights which shine up onto the signs. The monument sign will not be lit. Liz: motion to accept as read. Uwe seconded. Unanimous.

Item# 4.a. Summit Park Betterments-San Miguel Night Lighting and potential day use fees. Action item.

After discussion, this conclusion was reached: That the park night-lights should be facing down, not out; that more information should be garnered before a

discussion about fees for the children's water park; and that it is permissible to charge fees for the covered picnic tables and the pavilion. Mark made this motion: Sweetwater Community Planning Group has decided to send a letter to the Park Department requesting the removal of the night-safety lights at Summit Park. Muriel seconded.

12 ayes, 1noe. Rick Blacklock.

Liz made this motion: That Planning Group requests more information concerning a pending fee schedule for day use park and/or water feature. Muriel seconded. Unanimous.

Item #10 Willow Street Bridge Update. Community communication. Action Item: The Sweetwater Valley Civic Association had a speaker from Chula Vista come to discuss the Willow Street Bridge renovation. It turns out that they want to reengineer the turn from Sweetwater onto Willow and Sweetwater and change the slope. This will endanger the land that the Women's Club occupies. They want to put a concrete retaining wall there, plus change the striping by Sweetwater and Valley Vista. This will change the right of way and create a back up on both Sweetwater Road and Willow Street which will make access to both the Women's Club and Valley Vista hard.

Item #12: Announcements: Liz and Steve went to the Grand Canyon and took a three hour mule ride across the rim to the edge at an area called The Abyss. It was fun, to see a lot of elk and some deer. Don S. mentioned that the Fire Department would be holding a training which would include the horse arenas and the pump station. So there will be some helicopter activity as they simulate drops.

Gretchen Burkey passed away peacefully Saturday. There will be a celebration of life for her at the Women's Club. The family has requested that donations go for the Ranger Restoration Memorial.

Meeting adjourned 8:30 PM

Next meeting: June 7, 2011 7PM, Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Station.

Respectfully submitted
Liz Stonehouse, Secretary.

